

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 20 to 25 October 1952

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25X1

DATE PREPARED

25 November 1952

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. During the night of 20 October, 30 to 35 x 160-mm mortars

25X1 arrived by
25X1 rail at the north railroad station in Rathenow (N 5 3/4 15) and went to the
25X1 Infanterie Kaserne. The installation was occupied beyond capacity since that
25X1 time, so eight tents had to be erected. Troops wearing red-bordered black
25X1 epaulets with artillery insignia and numerous recruits were seen. Fifty
25X1 uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia
25X1 and an air force major were observed with the headquarters

2. On 25 October, the Pionier Kaserne on Rudolf Breitscheid Strasse was occupied
25X1 to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery
25X1 insignia. Field howitzers of 122-mm and 120-mm mortars

in the barracks yard.² were seen

3. On 24 October, the unit stationed in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne on Semliner
25X1 Strasse and eight prime movers towing 152-mm field howitzers
25X1 departed by rail at 2 p.m. an advance party equipped with
25X1 8 to 10 M-31 rocket launchers
25X1 moved into
25X1 the Kraftfahrer Kaserne. The advance party came from Premnitz south of
25X1 Rathenow. The troops prepared their quarters on 25 October.³

- 25X1 2. Comment. The entire 18th How Arty Brig (US) was believed to be at the
Pionier Kaserne on 25 October. Previous reports contained several indications
for 160-mm mortars at the installation, last in December 1951, when units of the
brigade performed a loading practice with 122-mm howitzers and 160-mm mortars.
These mortars were previously carried with the 65th Mort Brig (US) which,
however, is believed stationed in the Infanterie Kaserne. As the present report

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again mentions mortars which, however, probably were 160-mm, the mortar battalion, which, on the basis of the T/E of the first mentioned brigade, was carried as 16th Bn is confirmed to some extent as having 16 x 160-mm mortars.

3. Comment. It is possible that the 10th How Arty Brig (US) which is carried in the Kraftfahrer Kaserne may have changed quarters with the 25th RL Brig from Premnitz.

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there is a possibility that the first mentioned brigade moved to the quarters of the unidentified artillery brigade of the LXXIX Mtz Rifle Corps in Altengrabow which were vacated earlier.

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